

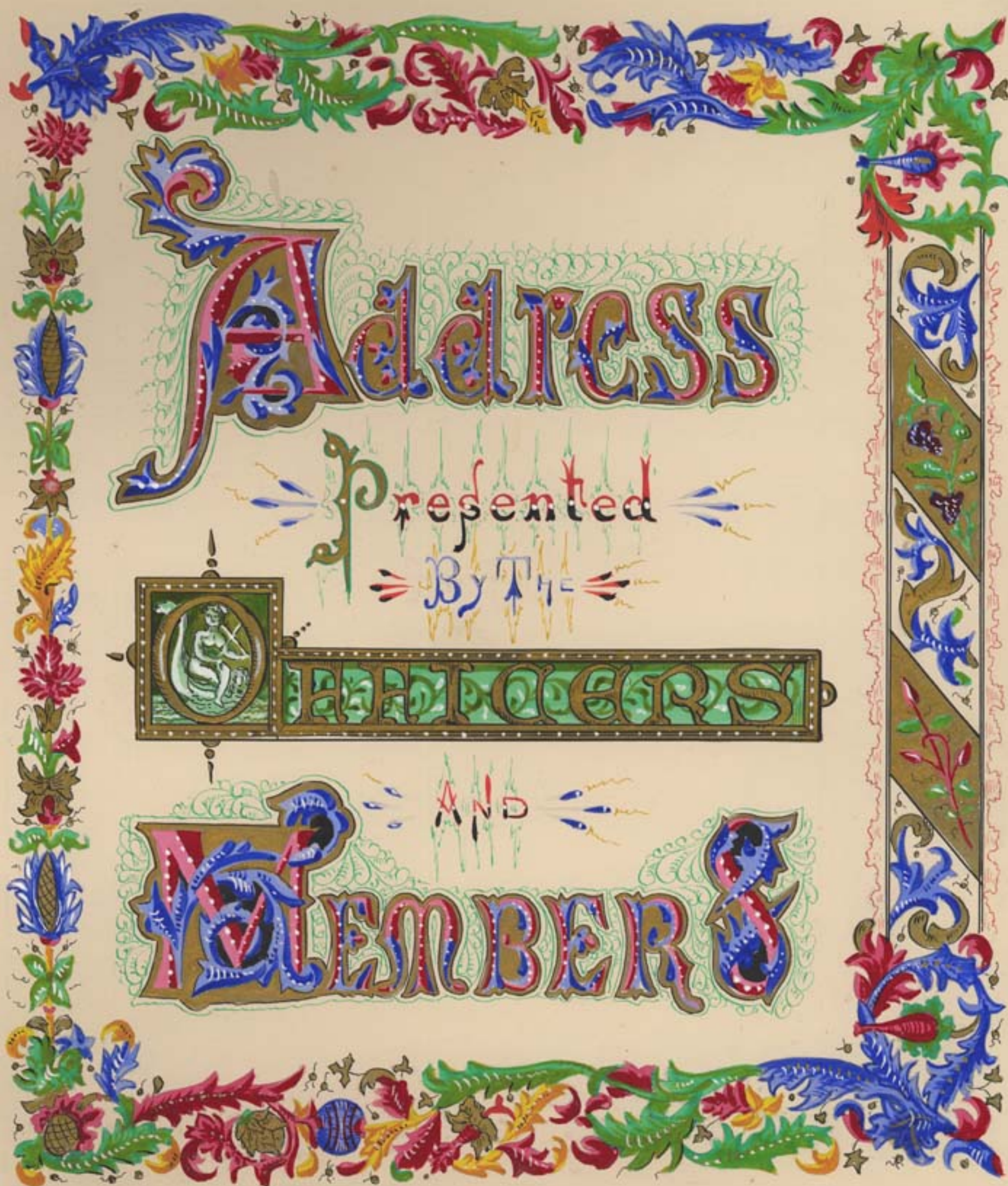
UNIVERSAL



CHRISTIAN
ASSOCIATION

ORGANIZED 1851

INCORPORATED 1870



TO
G. James Claxton, Esq.



PRESIDENT
OF THE
ASSOCIATION.

CHAIRMAN
OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

AND

CHAIRMAN OF THE
BUILDING

COMMITTEE.



AT THE
DEDICATION

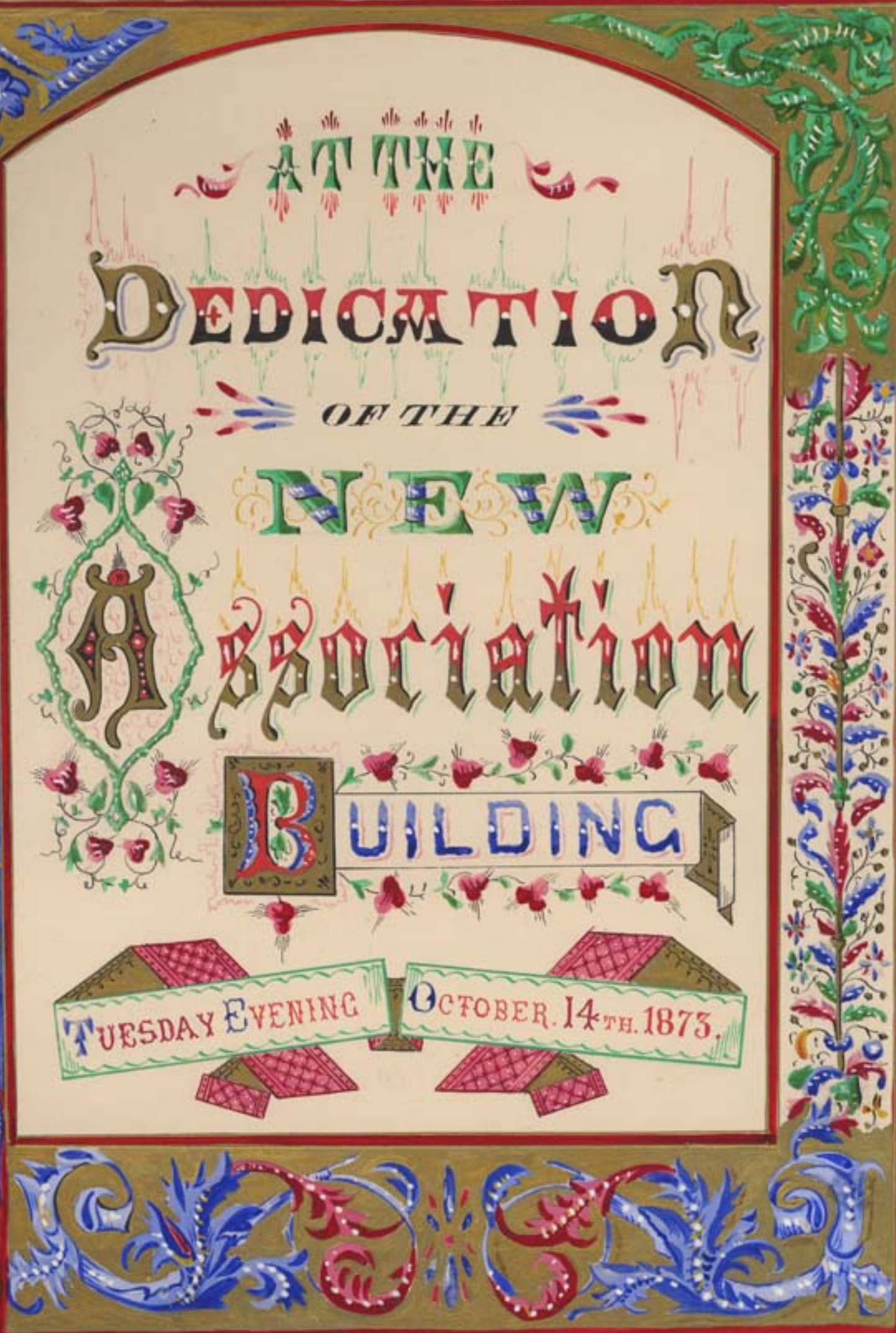
OF THE

NEW

Association

BUILDING

TUESDAY EVENING
OCTOBER 14TH. 1873.





WE the **OFFICERS**
and **MEMBERS** of the
MONTREAL YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN
ASSOCIATION avail ourselves of the **PRESENT**
DEEPLY INTERESTING OCCASION, to testify to
the **SUBSTANTIAL** and **IMPORTANT** services
you have so long rendered.

TWENTY TWO years have **ELAPSED** since a **FEW**
CHRISTIAN YOUNG MEN, including yourself, assembled
in the **OLD BAPTIST CHURCH**, in **St Helen Street**, to
ORGANIZE this **ASSOCIATION**.

From that **TIME** to the **PRESENT**, the **PROGRESS**
with but **SLIGHT** interruption, has been **STEADILY ONWARD**.
In this, we **HUMBLY** recognize the **LOVING-KINDNESS**
of our **HEAVENLY FATHER**, and we **REMEMBER** that a-
mong those whom **HE** has been **PLEASED** to **USE** as in-
struments for the **ACCOMPLISHMENT** of this work,
none has been more **EFFICIENT** than **YOURSELF**.

The BEAUTIFUL BUILDING
in which we are now ASSEMBLED is the result
of MUCH PRAYER and much ACTION, and we
REJOICE with you this evening, that the ASSOCI-
ATION is now in possession of a PERMANENT HOME
which we RECOGNIZE as a TOKEN of GOD'S goodness to
us; and, looking back on all the way by which we have
been led to the ATTAINMENT of our OBJECT, we adopt the
Language of the prophet SAMUEL,

"Hitherto hath
the LORD
helped us."

It is due to you DEAR SIR, plainly to state, that
much of the INTEREST felt by the PUBLIC and which
has SHEWN itself not only in VERBAL APPROVAL, but
in LIBERAL CONTRIBUTIONS Towards the ERECTION of this
building, is to be attributed to your PERSISTENT ADVOCACY
of this cause; and our EARNEST PRAYER is that the
YOUNG MEN may prove worthy of the CONFIDENCE
reposed in them; and that this BUILDING
may become the SPIRITUAL BIRTHPLACE of
many,



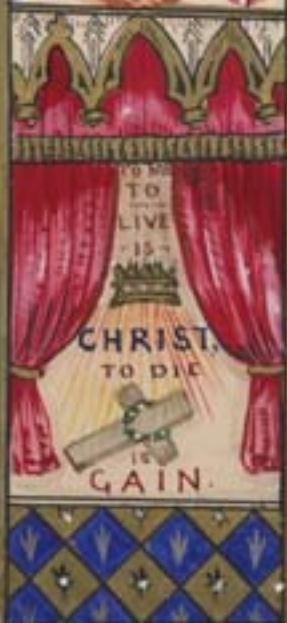
was the **DESIRE** of **MANY** that
your **NAME** should be **PERMANENTLY**
connected with this

ELEGANT STRUCTURE,

but your own wish to the **CONTRARY**, has
been **COMPLIED** with. It will neverthe-
less **STAND** as a **MEMORIAL** of your **EAR**
NEST LABORS.



It is with **CONCERN** that we call
to **MIND** how your **WILLING DE**
VOTION to this work, and to
the **GENERAL** oversight of the **ASSOCIA**
TION has worn upon your **HEALTH**, and
led you to **EXPRESS** a **DESIRE** to retire at
an **EARLY DATE** from the **RESPONSIBLE**
POSITIONS held by you. We however
trust that the **LORD** may grant you
a complete **RESTORATION** to **HEALTH**,
and that **HE** may long **SPARE** you to give
EFFICIENT ASSISTANCE to an **INSTITUTION**
which has for so **MANY YEARS** occupied
so **LARGE** a place in your **HEART.**



I**N** **CONCLUSION**
we commend YOU, and YOUR
FAMILY, to the PATERNAL CARE
of our
HEAVENLY FATHER

and PRAY that it may be your PRIVILEGE
hereafter to KNOW that through the INSTRUMENTALITY
of this **ASSOCIATION**, many Young
Men have been TURNED from the PATHS of THE
DESTROYER in the PRESENT WORLD and have through
FAITH in the

Saviour
secured a PLACE in the WORLD to COME
among the

Sanctified **AND** **S**aved.





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THOS. CRAIG



N. S. WHITNEY



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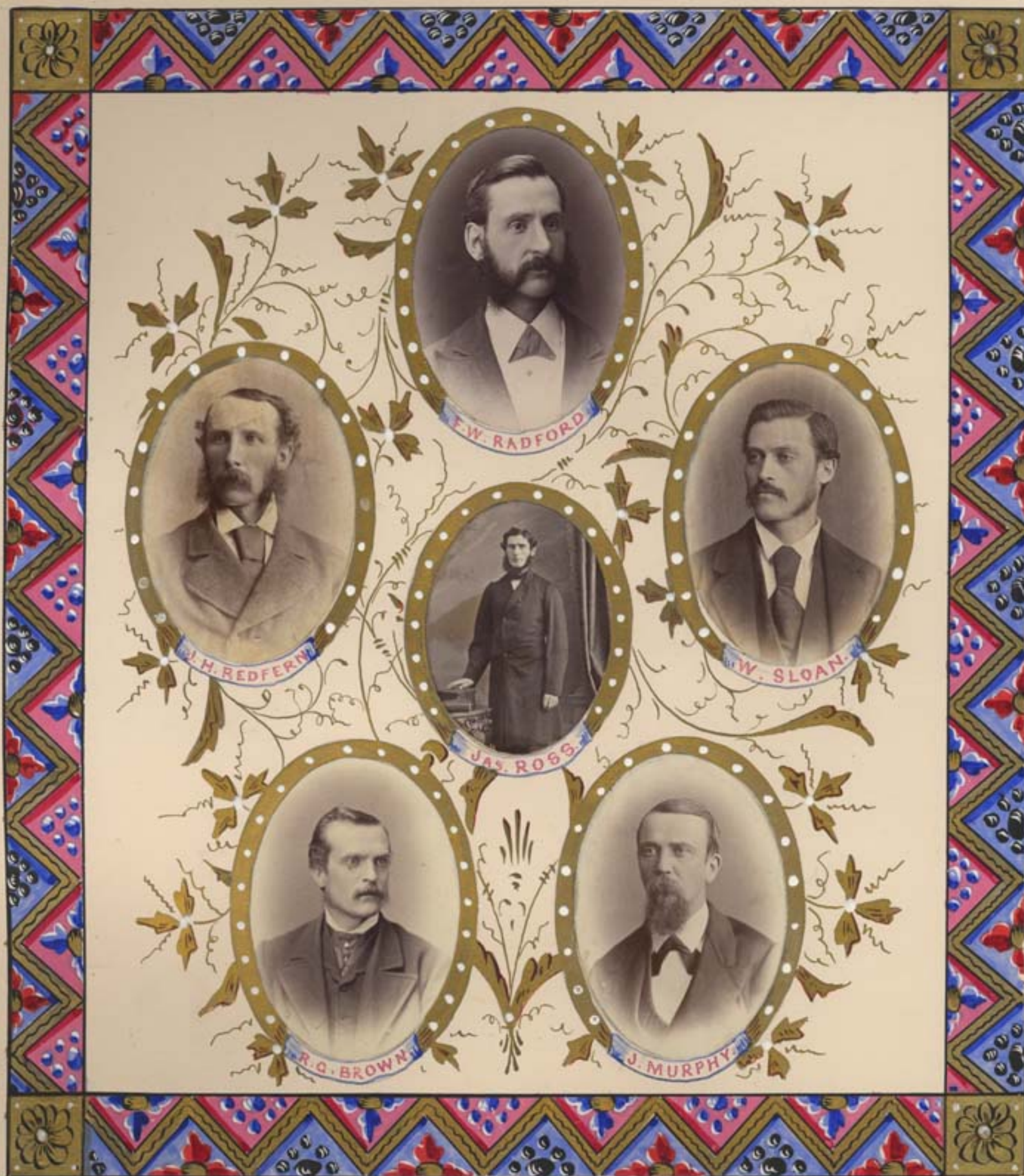
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